

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

March 2012 – Week 3

Air Date: March 11 – March 17 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: A TEXAS HERO'S LAST BATTLE

MARCH 1861 AND A TEXAS HERO'S LAST BATTLE.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

MARCH 15, 1861. AUSTIN. AFLAME WITH PASSION, TEXAS HAS VOTED TO SECEDE. LEGENDARY GOVERNOR SAM HOUSTON, WHO OPPOSED SECESSION, MUST NOW SWEAR LOYALTY TO THE CONFEDERACY OR BE REPLACED.

IN THE MANSION, THE 70-YEAR OLD HOUSTON FINISHES DINNER AND RETIRES. THROUGH THE NIGHT, HIS WIFE HEARS HIM PACE THE WOODEN FLOORS, PONDERING HIS FATE. BY MORNING HE DECIDES.

"MARGARET, I WILL NEVER DO IT."

LATER AT THE CAPITOL, HIS NAME IS CALLED BUT HOUSTON REFUSES TO TAKE THE OATH. THE HERO OF SAN JACINTO IS THROWN OUT OF OFFICE AND BRANDED A TRAITOR. TWO YEARS LATER, HE IS DEAD.

SAM HOUSTON FOUGHT HIS LAST BATTLE 151 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

Thomas H. Kreneck, "HOUSTON, SAMUEL," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fho73>), accessed March 1, 2012. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

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